



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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AS CALIF. GOPers PREPARE FOR THEIR SEPT. 24TH CONVENTION, UNCIVIL WAR BREAKS OUT AGAIN.

Editor's note: The Aug. 23rd headline in the *San Francisco Chronicle* says *State's Republican Party In Financial, Political Tatters*. The article by political writers Carla Marinucci & Robert Gunnison was the second highly *negative story* to hit the Calif. Republican Party and CRP chair John McGraw in recent days. The first story on Aug. 18th was by AP staff writer Scott Lindlaw. The headline on the AP story said *Calif. GOP Mired in Debt*. Here's our update & analysis...

...Debt is only part of the problem, because there have been several key CRP staffers who have recently quit, including finance director Mary Khayat plus two other finance staffers, as well as political director Debbie Rohrbach, who didn't go quietly. FYI: the CRP hired Michael Vallante to replace Khayat and also hired Julie Vazquez as the Deputy Finance Director...

...Another problem: at the Sept. 24-26 CRP convention at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel there will be the usual *uncivil war* with Bob Larkin and his allies from the CA Congress of Republicans who don't like the way McGraw is running the party. Larkin told Calpeek that on Friday, Sept. 24, the Mainstream Republicans will hold an alternative GOP "gathering" at the Westcoast Anaheim Hotel where they will draft a platform (more like a 1 page statement of principles), very similar to the *Contract for America*, with no mention of abortion. The CRP isn't supposed to take up the platform until its February 2000 meeting, but Larkin says his allies will try to force a showdown at this meeting...

...As for the CRP's *financial problems*, after the AP story hit, McGraw sent a 8/18 memo to his Board. The AP story listed CRP debts of \$414,818 as of 6/30/99. Cash-on-hand was \$262,137. McGraw's

memo says that since he took over, the CRP's debt has been cut by \$100,000. But compared to the \$1.8 million in the CA Demo Party's warchest, the CRP has real troubles. FYI: a memo from CRP treasurer Michael Der Manouel (dated 8/2), shows that as of July 30th the GOP had payables of \$381,000, with coh of \$58,756. "All bills are current, nothing is past due." This memo is marked *confidential* --- do not forward, reproduce or share with anyone outside the CRP." Uppps...

...So why is the CRP having such a tough time raising money? Several theories. Some says it's because McGraw and the CRP tried to screw Texas Gov. George W. Bush by attempting to kill off the winner take all Calif. GOP primary; thus big donors (many of whom support Bush) were POed. Others say the problem is McGraw and his own hardline policies. Yet others just think the timing is bad - especially with so many GOP presidential candidates, PACs and other GOP committees sucking up money in Calif. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK WILL BE ON VACATION FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

We're taking a much needed rest - beginning Aug. 27th. We will return to work on Sept. 13th and our next issue of Calpeek will be dated Sept. 20th...

CAMPAIGN 2000: SUPREME COURT DECISION PUTS GAMBLING ON CALIF.'S POLITICAL FRONT BURNER.

Editor's note: As a result of the CA Supreme Court's 6-1 decision Aug. 23rd striking down Prop. 5, insiders say voters should get ready for *Round II* in another spending spree by the various CA Indian tribes who want to have Class III (Las Vegas style) gaming & slots at their casinos. Here is our update & analysis...

...The tribes who pushed for and won 63% of the vote for Prop. #5 in 1998 are again kicking themselves for not qualifying Prop. 5 as a constitutional amendment to amend the 1984 Lottery initiative, which outlawed Class III gaming & slots. The tribes screwed up be-

cause they qualified Prop. 5 as an initiative statute. So **\$66 million** went down the *commode*. But we knew about this legal problem back in '98 and the court only confirmed it...

...Not to worry, because the tribes who favor Class III gaming will probably be back this March with what sources call *Son of Prop. 5*, a constitutional amendment to fix the flaws in the original Prop. 5. The petitions are on the streets now. But some of our sources see a potential legal problem with this new fix...

...As soon as Prop. 5 was passed last year, non-Indian gaming interests began pushing for the same kind of treatment. In other words, horse racing interests and non-Indian card clubs wanted to have Class III gaming & slots too. This new constitutional amendment being circulated by the tribes would, in the opinion of our legal sources, set up a monopoly situation for the tribes and that could be a problem because under the federal Indian Gaming law, a compact for specific types of Class III gaming are permitted only if the State allows all other gaming interests the same opportunities...

...However, *Son of Prop. 5* is not all the Indians have on their political platters. There's also a referendum to overturn the Pala Compact. Our sources think there will be an all-out, mega buck battle to kill the compact, but whether the 9 tribes who signed the Pala deal with former Gov. Pete Wilson fight back is in doubt. These tribes are also negotiating with Gov. Gray Davis on a new compact, so they may not do anything. We just don't know yet. We do know that these tribes are now using a video slot machine which is legal. It gives these tribes a big advantage over those who have been ordered by the Feds to pull the plug on their "illegal" slots...

...FYI: There may be an answer to this now very confused gaming situation, but **time** is a problem. Gov. Davis, who wants to find a reasonable solution, is working with Senate President John Burton on SCA 11. It's an empty shell which Davis and Burton would like to use as a vehicle to reach a global settlement on all gaming issues in Calif. --- and then place it on the March 2000 ballot. But with all the competing interests, and the legislature adjourning Sept. 10th, it may be wishful thinking. But Davis could call a special session. Some of Davis' strongest legislative supporters are urging him to do just that. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2000: CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Editor's note: Here's another update about key Legislative primaries in 2000...

☒ **45th AD** – Demo candidate Cesar Portillo has been endorsed by State Sen. Richard Polanco(D). Portillo also has been endorsed by Assemblyman Martin Gallegos and U.S. Rep. Grace Napolitano. In addition to Portillo and L.A. Councilwoman Jackie Goldberg, there is also Antonio De La Rosa, an attorney who is the exec. director of the L.A. Center for Law & Justice. He has hired consultant Phil Giarrizzo...

☒ **43rd AD** – Entertainment attorney Paul Krekorian has formally declared for the Demo Party nomination in this AD now represented by Scott Wildman(D). Krekorian has hired consultant Eric Hacopian of EDH & Associates to run his campaign. Krekorian is an L.A. City Ethics Commissioner and serves on the Board of Advisors to *Women Against Gun Violence*...

☒ **11th AD** – Former Concord Mayor Lou Rosas, now director of External Affairs for Pac Bell in Contra Costa County, has hired Demo consultant Phil Giarrizzo for his primary race. The 11th AD is now held by Demo Tom Torlakson, who is running for the State Senate next year...

CAMPAIGN '99: ROB GUZMAN QUILTS 42ND CD RACE. NEW POLL SHOWS BACA LEADING MARTA BROWN.

Editor's note: Lots of news to report on this special election campaign to replace the late George Brown in the 42nd CD. The primary special is Sept. 21st. Here's our update & analysis...

...On Friday, Aug. 20th, GOP businessman and '94 42nd CD GOP nominee Rob Guzman decided to bow out and endorsed GOP attorney Elia Pirozzi. It was a long shot anyway for Guzman, especially after the San Bernardino Co. GOP Central Cmt. endorsed Pirozzi --- rather unusual for the GOP, who normally don't make pre-primary endorsements. But in this case, the GOP decision was based on rallying behind a single candidate to save resources in what is expected to be a hard-fought runoff. Sources say Guzman went to Sacramento to see if he could raise some support, but the GOP Legislative Leadership said NO. But the GOP field isn't completely clear: Hal J. Styles Jr. is still in the race...

... On the Demo side, the San Bernardino Co. Demo Central Cmt. was unable to make an endorsement of either Marta Brown, the late congressman's widow, or State Sen. Joe Baca. Brown got 15 to Baca's 14, with 60% needed for an endorsement. Brown won the endorsement of Emily's List; no surprise...

... The Brown campaign also released data from its new poll by Fairbank Maslin Maullin. The poll was taken Aug. 10-12 among 400 likely voters. In the large field, with Demos & GOPers together (which is how they run in a special), Baca received 22%, Pirozzi 17%, Brown 16%, Fontana Mayor David Eshelman(D) 12%, others 7% and undecided 25%. With Guzman out of the running, it's very likely that Pirozzi could end up as the frontrunner, while Baca, Brown and Eshelman split resources and the Demo vote. Stay tuned...

FULL METAL JACKET: POLANCO'S SB 15 TO OUTLAW UNSAFE HANDGUNS WINS LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL.

Editor's note: As **Calpeek** hit deadline last week, our sources weren't sure that State Sen. Richard Polanco's **SB 15** to safety test all handguns (aimed at banning unsafe weapons) would pass. But it got 43 votes in the Assembly and also won approval in the State Senate on Aug. 23rd. Gov. Gray Davis(D) is expected to sign SB 15 after **Calpeek's** deadline. Here's our analysis...

... There are still some problems and concerns with SB 15, but they can be hammered out in a catch-all gun trailer bill – **SB 29** by joint authors Steve Peace, John Burton and Don Perata. (FYI: It is unclear what eventually will go into SB 29). And while it was true that SB 15 was in trouble last week, Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa made it a *leadership issue* and key Demo gun supporter Rod Wright agreed to release his votes (8-12 votes estimated by our sources) if amendments were added later to satisfy PORAC and other *line cop* groups who opposed SB 15. Bottomline: Polanco owes Villaraigosa big time...

... In the meantime, Sen. Tom Hayden and Assemblyman Jack Scott's efforts to win approval of a bill to require *safety/trigger locks* on handguns has won legislative approval. **SB 130/AB 106** now goes to Davis. Other gun bills to watch: (1) **AB 295** is the Ellen Corbett & Rod Wright bill to tighten restrictions on gun shows; (2) **AB 1097** by Gloria Romero(D) would create a gun enforcement unit within the Calif. DOJ

to enforce, assist and educate local DAs and police with gun laws already on the books...

... FYI: the attempt to do a *referendum* (repeal the assault weapons bill SB 23) fell flat on its face. The problem was the *petition form*. Right now one can't pull a petition form off the internet. The size of the type and layout requires a professional printer to set everything up using an 8x14 format. In the meantime, pro-gun radio talk show host Geoff Metcalf vows to do a referendum on SB 15. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2000: CALIFORNIA INITIATIVE UPDATE.

Editor's note: Most of the major initiative campaigns which are trying to qualify for the March 2000 Calif. primary ballot are now in the process of turning in petition to the 58 county registrars. **Calpeek** has other initiative news as well...

◆ *Shooting for March 2000* – Our sources say there are 6 measures aiming for the March 2000 ballot. All of them have professional petition managers aiding in the signature drives. The ones our sources say have the best shot at qualifying include: 1) Let's Fix Our Schools (2/3rds to 50% vote on local school bonds); 2) contracting out (turned in 1,050,000 names on 8/24); 3) Unz-Miller campaign reform; 4) LVD (remapping initiative). *Up in the air*: Repeal of Prop. 10 (tobacco tax); and Indian Gaming #2. FYI: **Calpeek** ran into a circulator in the area and asked him how the various campaigns were doing. The only initiative which this particular guy was having trouble with was the Repeal of Prop. 10...

● *LVD 2000 May Have a Problem* – The initiative which would take the *reapportionment process* away from the Demo controlled Legislature and Gov. Davis may have a big problem and Demos are already licking their chops. The problem is that if *Let the Voters Decide* initiative were approved, once the lines were drawn by the CA Supreme Court, what happens if the voters in a statewide election reject the plan? Under the LVD initiative, the remap plan drawn by the court is subject to voter approval once the plan is finished. Another potential problem is that any plan drawn up must be OKed by the U.S. DOJ (under the Voting Rights Act)...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

Sept. 10	CA Legislature recesses.
Sept. 21	42 nd CD special election.
Sept. 24	Women For celebrates 35 th anniversary. Noon luncheon at L.A.'s Riviera Country Club.
Sept. 24-26	Calif. Republican Party's biannual convention at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel.
Sept. 29	So. Calif. chpt. of Americans for Democratic Action(ADA) to honor Warren Beatty at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.
Oct. 5	Annual Governor's Conference for Women, Long Beach Convention Center.
Oct. 3-6	Nat'l Congress of American Indians 56 th Annual Session, Palm Springs.
Oct. 10	Last day for Governor to sign/veto bills.
Nov. 1	Declaration of Intent for State Legislature.
Nov. 15	Declaration of Candidacy/Nomination papers.

CAMPAIGN CONSULTANTS DIRECTORY ON SALE.

Calpeek's new Millennium edition of the Directory of Campaign Consultants is now on sale to subscribers for \$25. Non-subscribers have to become subscribers before they can buy the Directory. Checks only; no invoicing; and no credit cards...

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Art Navarro has been appointed a vp with Nelson Communications Group in Irvine...
- Gov. Davis has appoint Terri R. Smooke as a special assistant. She'll advise on policies affecting the Jewish community and conduct outreach activities...
- Gov. Davis has appointed attorney Mark T. Harris as Undersecretary for Business, Trans. & Housing...
- The Sacto office of Edelman Public Relations has hired Stevan Allen as a VP. He was with Fleishman-Hillard's Sacto office before moving to Edelman...

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political & otherwise, worth noting...

■ **Expanding the L.A. Co. Bd. of Supes** – It's been tried before without success, but L.A. Co. Sup. Zev Yaroslavsky got his colleagues to place a measure on the November 2000 ballot which would expand the current 5-member board to 9 members. Another local initiative which Yaroslavsky is pushing would create an elected county executive. But unless Zev gets his allies and friends to fund these measures with a solid educational effort (read that as lots of TV and mail), these countywide initiatives will lose once again...

■ **Calpeek's Summertime Reading List** - Although summer is just about over, here are some books on Calpeek's best seller list: 1) *The Greatest Generation* by Tom Brokaw – must reading, especially if you were born post 1969 and don't know much about WWII; 2) *The Dark Side of Camelot* by Seymour Hersh – you'll see the "ugly side" of John & Robert Kennedy, a picture you may not like, but the book is worth reading; 3) *Tuesdays With Morrie* by Mitch Albom has been on the L.A. Times best seller list for 83 weeks – and there is a reason; 4) *Clandestine* by James Ellroy – my favorite mystery writer spins another good L.A. noir story, but it doesn't measure up to some of Ellroy's other books such as *American Tabloid* or *The Big Nowhere*...

COMMUNICATING WITH CALPEEK WITH E-MAIL.

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- **Public relations account executive.** Award-winning Sacramento-area firm seeks creative, collaborative team member. Minimum 2 years professional public relations or journalism experience and BA/BS required. Strong writing and project-management skills essential. Please fax resume and writing sample to (530)758-9734.
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